

Date: Sat, 18 Dec 93 04:30:08 PST
From: Ham-Policy Mailing List and Newsgroup <ham-policy@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Ham-Policy-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Ham-Policy@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Ham-Policy Digest V93 #530
To: Ham-Policy

Ham-Policy Digest Sat, 18 Dec 93 Volume 93 : Issue 530

Today's Topics:

ARRL's callsign admin position (2 msgs)
 Brady Bill for Ham Radio?
 Guide to the Personal Radio Newsgroups
 Question about radio pirating... (2 msgs)
 Robert

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Ham-Policy@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Ham-Policy-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Ham-Policy Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/ham-policy".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: 16 Dec 93 06:12:12 GMT
From: ogicse!emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: ARRL's callsign admin position
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

In article <2704@arrl.org> zlau@arrl.org (Zack Lau) writes:
>Interesting idea Gary. How small an interest group gets to have
>as much influence as a Director? And how narrowly can an interest
>group be defined. Who decides?

Well of course any such decisions are ultimately somewhat arbitrary,
but let's try this scheme. Anyone can declare as a director candidate
for some interest group he declares. Only candidates who get as many
votes as the territorial director with the smallest vote count get to
take office. So the interest groups would have to have at least as much
support as the least supported territorial director. That could lead
to a fluctuating number of directors from election to election as
interest groups wax and wane, but that's fine since it dynamically

assigns representation in a proportional manner.

Gary

--

Gary Coffman KE4ZV	I kill you,	gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary
Destructive Testing Systems	You kill me,	uunet!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary
534 Shannon Way	We're the Manson Family	emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary
Lawrenceville, GA 30244	-sorry Barney	

Date: 17 Dec 93 13:26:14
From: idacrd.ccr-p.ida.org!idacrd!n4hy@uunet.uu.net
Subject: ARRL's callsign admin position
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

Gary:

In general this may be correct, but god forbid, I am going to come to Mendelsohn's defense. He does NOT appoint yes men EXCLUSIVELY to his cabinet. Phil Karn and I were both asked to be on his cabinet and Karn actually served in some places. Now Phil and I had been a thorn in Steve's side before and he had no reason to believe that we would 'behave' in these meetings. I did not serve, primarily because I wasn't in Hudson, I am in Atlantic. Mendelsohn, whether you like or hate him, does NOT choose exclusively yes men for his cabinet.

Bob

--

Robert W. McGwier	n4hy@ccr-p.ida.org Interests: ham radio,
Center for Communications Research	scouts, astronomy, golf (o yea, & math!)
Princeton, N.J. 08520	ASM Troop 5700, ACM Pack 53 Hightstown
(609)-279-6240(v) (609)-924-3061(f)	I used to be a Buffalo . . . NE III-120

Date: 14 Dec 1993 20:14:43 GMT
From: nntp.ucsb.edu!library.ucla.edu!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!howland.reston.ans.net!
sol.ctr.columbia.edu!news.cs.columbia.edu!mix-cs!popovich@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Brady Bill for Ham Radio?
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

> Have any of you heard about this new Brady Bill regarding Ham Radio?
>
> It seems they want to put a five-day waiting period on the purchase of
> any amateur radio capable of transmitting.

:~) It's worse than that, actually; they also want to ban the possession and sale of any battery that's capable of providing power for more than 10 transmissions without recharging. :~) They say that they want to prevent thoughtless people from spraying their useless chatter all over the 2-meter and 70-cm bands; after all, who really *needs* to transmit so many times in order to communicate? I think this is in the "Crime Bill" that will be considered early next year, and the name's right, it *is* a crime. They call it the "assault radio" ban. And then there's Moynihan's proposed 50 to 10,000 percent tax on electro-magnetic waves, especially the evil kind emitted from omnidirectional antennas that, instead of traveling in a tight beam, expand to infinity as they move away from the transmitting station...I think he calls them "Black Talon" waves, because of the great amount of damage that they can do in many areas simultaneously. There are perfect examples of these on 14.313 MHz, that can enrage people all around the world. :~)

-Steve

Date: Wed, 15 Dec 1993 12:00:59 GMT
From: nevada.edu!news.unomaha.edu!news@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Guide to the Personal Radio Newsgroups
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

Posted-By: auto-faq 3.1.1.4
Archive-name: radio/personal-intro
Revision: 1.5 09/18/93 16:49:31
Changes: new mailing lists, .packet rmgroup, and .policy updates

(Note: The following is reprinted with the permission of the author.)

This message describes the rec.radio.amateur.*, rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.info, and rec.radio.swap newsgroups. It is intended to serve as a guide for the new reader on what to find where. Questions and comments may be directed to the author, Jay Maynard, K5ZC, by Internet electronic mail at jmaynard@oac.hsc.uth.tmc.edu. This message was last changed on 18 September 1993 to add the mailing lists for the new rec.radio.amateur newsgroups, to note the rmgroup of rec.radio.amateur.packet, and to officially retire some (in)famous threads of discussion on rec.radio.amateur.policy.

History
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Way back when, before there was a Usenet, the Internet hosted a mailing list for hams, called (appropriately enough) INFO-HAMS. Ham radio discussions were held on the mailing list, and sent to the mailboxes of those who had signed up for it. When the Usenet software was created, and net news as we

now know it was developed, a newsgroup was created for hams: net.ham-radio. The mailing list and the newsgroup were gatewayed together, eventually.

As the net grew, and as packet radio came into vogue, packet discussion began to dominate other topics in the group and on the list. This resulted in the logical solution: a group was created to hold the packet discussion, and another corresponding mailing list was created as well: net.ham-radio.packet and PACKET-RADIO, respectively.

These two groups served for several years, and went through Usenet's Great Renaming essentially unchanged, moving from net.ham-radio[.packet] to rec.ham-radio[.packet]. Readership and volume grew with the rest of the network.

The INFO-HAMS mailing list was originally run from a US Army computer at White Sands Missile Range, SIMTEL20. There were few problems with this arrangement, but one was that the system was not supposed to be used for commercial purposes. Since one of hams' favorite pastimes is swapping gear, it was natural for hams to post messages about equipment for sale to INFO-HAMS/rec.ham-radio. This ran afoul of SIMTEL20's no-commercial-use restriction, and after some argument, a group was created specifically for messages like that: rec.ham-radio.swap. This group wasn't gatewayed to a mailing list, thus avoiding problems.

While all this was happening, other folks wanted to discuss other aspects of the world of radio than the personal communications services. Those folks created the rec.radio.shortwave and rec.radio.noncomm newsgroups, and established the precedent of the rec.radio.* hierarchy, which in turn reflected Usenet's overall trend toward a hierarchical name structure.

The debate between proponents of a no-code ham radio license and its opponents grew fierce and voluminous in late 1989 and 1990. Eventually, both sides grew weary of the debate, and those who had not been involved even more so. A proposal for a newsgroup dedicated to licensing issues failed. A later proposal was made for a group that would cover the many recurring legal issues discussions. During discussion of the latter proposal, it became clear that it would be desirable to fit the ham radio groups under the rec.radio.* hierarchy. A full-blown reorganization was passed by Usenet voters in January 1991, leading to the overall structure we now use.

After the reorganization, more and more regular information postings began to appear, and were spread out across the various groups in rec.radio.*. Taking the successful example of the news.answers group, where informational postings from across the net are sent, the group rec.radio.info was created in December, 1992, with Mark Salyzyn, VE6MGS, initially serving as moderator.

In January, 1993, many users started complaining about the volume in rec.radio.amateur.misc. This led to a discussion about a second

reorganization, which sparked the creation of a mailing list by Ian Kluft, KD6EUI. This list, which was eventually joined by many of the most prolific posters to the ham radio groups, came up with a proposal to add 11 groups to the rec.radio.amateur hierarchy in April 1993. The subsequent vote, held in May and early June, approved the creation of five groups:
rec.radio.amateur.digital.misc (to replace .packet), .equipment, .homebrew, .antenna, and .space.

The Current Groups =====

I can hear you asking, "OK, so this is all neat history, but what does it have to do with me now?" The answer is that the history of each group has a direct bearing on what the group is used for, and what's considered appropriate where.

The easy one is rec.radio.amateur.misc. It is what rec.ham-radio was renamed to during the reorganization. Any message that's not more appropriate in one of the other groups belongs here, from contesting to DX to ragchewing on VHF to information on becoming a ham.

The group rec.radio.amateur.digital.misc is for discussions related to (surprise!) digital amateur radio. This doesn't have to be the common two-meter AX.25 variety of packet radio, either; some of the most knowledgeable folks in radio digital communications can be found here, and anything in the general area is welcome. The name was changed to emphasize this, and to encourage discussion not only of other text-based digital modes, such as AMTOR, RTTY, and Clover, but things like digital voice and video as well. The former group, rec.radio.amateur.packet, should be removed by September 21st, 1993. It is obsolete, and you should use .digital.misc instead (or the appropriate new mailing list, mentioned below). The group has .misc as part of the name to allow further specialization if the users wish it, such as .digital.tcp-ip.

The swap group is now rec.radio.swap. This recognizes a fact that became evident shortly after the original group was formed: Hams don't just swap ham radio gear, and other folks besides hams swap ham equipment. If you have radio equipment, or test gear, or computer stuff that hams would be interested in, here's the place. Equipment wanted postings belong here too. Discussions about the equipment generally don't; if you wish to discuss a particular posting with the buyer, email is a much better way to do it, and the other groups, especially .equipment and .homebrew, are the place for public discussions. There is now a regular posting with information on how to go about buying and selling items in rec.radio.swap; please refer to it before you post there.

The first reorganization added two groups to the list, one of which is rec.radio.amateur.policy. This group was created as a place for all the discussions that seem to drag on interminably about the many rules,

regulations, legalities, and policies that surround amateur radio, both existing and proposed. Recent changes to the Amateur Radio Rules (FCC Part 97) have finally laid to rest the Great Usenet Pizza Autopatch Debate as well as complaints about now-preempted local scanner laws hostile to amateurs, but plenty of discussion about what a bunch of rotten no-goodniks the local frequency coordinating body is, as well as the neverending no-code debate, may still be found here.

The other added group is rec.radio.cb. This is the place for all discussion about the Citizens' Band radio service. Such discussions have been very inflammatory in rec.ham-radio in the past; please do not cross-post to both rec.radio.cb and rec.radio.amateur.* unless the topic is genuinely of interest to both hams and CBers - and very few topics are.

The rec.radio.info group is just what its name implies: it's the place where informational messages from across rec.radio.* may be found, regardless of where else they're posted. As of this writing, information posted to the group includes Cary Oler's daily solar propagation bulletins, ARRL bulletins, the Frequently Asked Questions files for the various groups, and radio modification instructions. This group is moderated, so you cannot post to it directly; if you try, even if your message is crossposted to one of the other groups, your message will be mailed to the moderator, who is currently Mark Salyzyn, VE6MGS. The email address for submissions to the group is rec-radio-info@ve6mgs.ampr.ab.ca. Inquiries and other administrivia should be directed to rec-radio-request@ve6mgs.ampr.ab.ca. For more information about rec.radio.info, consult the introduction and posting guidelines that are regularly posted to that newsgroup.

The groups rec.radio.amateur.antenna, .equipment, .homebrew, and .space are for more specialized areas of ham radio: discussions about antennas, commercially-made equipment, homebrewing, and amateur radio space operations. The .equipment group is not the place for buying or selling equipment; that's what rec.radio.swap is for. Similarly, the .space group is specifically about amateur radio in space, such as the OSCAR program and SAREX, the Shuttle Amateur Radio EXperiment; other groups cover other aspects of satellites and space. Homebrewing isn't about making your own alcoholic beverages at home (that's rec.crafts.brewing), but rather construction of radio and electronic equipment by the amateur experimenter.

Except for rec.radio.swap and rec.radio.cb, all of these newsgroups are available by Internet electronic mail in digest format; send a mail message containing "help" on a line by itself to listserv@ucsd.edu for instructions on how to use the mail server.

All of the groups can be posted to by electronic mail, though, by using a gateway at the University of Texas at Austin. To post a message this way, change the name of the group you wish to post to by replacing all of the '.'s with '-'s - for example, rec.radio.swap becomes rec-radio-swap - and send to

that name@cs.utexas.edu (rec-radio-swap@cs.utexas.edu, for example). You may crosspost by including multiple addresses as Cc: entries (but see below). This gateway's continued availability is at the pleasure of the admins at UT-Austin, and is subject to going away at any time - and especially if forgeries and other net.abuses become a problem. You have been warned.

A Few Words on Crossposting

=====

Please do not crosspost messages to two or more groups unless there is genuine interest in both groups in the topic being discussed, and when you do, please include a header line of the form "Followup-To: group.name" in your article's headers (before the first blank line). This will cause followups to your article to go to the group listed in the Followup-To: line. If you wish to have replies to go to you by email, rather than be posted, use the word "poster" instead of the name of a group. Such a line appears in the headers of this article.

One of the few examples of productive cross-posting is with the rec.radio.info newsgroup. To provide a filtered presentation of information articles, while still maintaining visibility in their home newsgroups, the moderator strongly encourages cross-posting. All information articles should be submitted to the rec.radio.info moderator so that he may simultaneously cross-post your information to the appropriate newsgroups. Most newsreaders will only present the article once, and network bandwidth is conserved since only one article is propagated. If you make regular informational postings, and have made arrangements with the moderator to post directly to the group, please cross-post as appropriate.

--

Jay Maynard, EMT-P, K5ZC, PP-ASEL | Never ascribe to malice that which can
jmaynard@oac.hsc.uth.tmc.edu | adequately be explained by stupidity.

"If my car ran OS/2, it'd be there by now" -- bumper sticker

GCS d++ p+ c++ l+ m+/- s/++ g++ w++ t+ r

--

73, Paul W. Schleck, KD3FU

pschleck@unomaha.edu

Celebrating 60 years of the Univ. of Maryland ARA - W3EAX (1933-1993)

Date: 17 Dec 93 14:51:54 GMT

From: ogicse!cs.uoregon.edu!sgiblab!darwin.sura.net!dtix.dt.navy.mil!

dtix.dt.navy.mil!usenet@network.ucsd.edu

Subject: Question about radio pirating...

To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Dec16.185514.8068@dunix.drake.edu> asc002@dunix.drake.edu (VaxCat) writes:

>I believe that Americans should be FREE to broadcast their words to
>the public and I believe that it's abhorrant that they have to be
>especially BRAVE to do so. I'm not about to let self-serving
>politicians and business-people take America away from me, my family
>and my friends. I'm going to take America back from them.
>
>Anthony
>

Bravo! I'd salute you if this wasn't email....

My opinions are my own, I know cause I bought them for \$20 from a store.

Shoupe@order.dt.navy.mil
-----BEGIN PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----
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Date: 17 Dec 93 15:40:09 GMT
From: ogicse!cs.uoregon.edu!sgiblab!darwin.sura.net!dtix.dt.navy.mil!
dtix.dt.navy.mil!usenet@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Question about radio pirating...
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

In article <CI5GpE.FEB@news.Hawaii.Edu> jherman@uhunix3.uhcc.Hawaii.Edu (Jeff Herman) writes:

>In article <2eqdtmINNltl@dtix.dt.navy.mil> shoupe@order.dt.navy.mil writes:
>>
>> And jherman@uhunix3.uhcc.Hawaii.Edu also comes to mind. There are some
>
>jherman@hawaii.edu will work just fine, or jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu, too.
>
>>time. Poor Jeff must not have any fun, and seems to want anyone else to.
>
>Hee hee, I have a ball on CW with my homebuilt QRP xmtrs. I've been

>posting QRP circuits on .homebrew and QRP.mail for others to enjoy
>this fun aspect of the hobby. I'll pass them along to you via email.
>But make sure you pass your test before you operate them. No more
>outlaw activity, understand? We won't stand for it.

I could care less if you stand/don't stand for anything. As for
xmitters, I have two solid state 5kw am broadcast units I converted
to the ham bands. Speech processing by Orban opti-mod AM. It will
be the best sounding rig on the ham bands. As for antennas I've
got some of the nicest ground/plane/ directional tower setups
ham radio will ever be graced by. Sorry, the challenge in building
equipment of an inferior nature ain't my cup of tea. Intergrating
real broadcast engineering into the hobbie is. Our two meter
repeater and our 220/440 mhz repeaters are using modified Orban
technology to get the sound and clarity punch we needed. The standard
ham knows zip about digital sound and signal processing, It's my
life. As for legal/illegal use of the airwaves, I had nothing to loose
as a HS kid, I'd been incarcerated five times, and did not give a
flying fandango about the legalities... Since my other job now
hinges on the fact that I carry an FCC general license, (and the
fact I have my own show) I no longer pirate. I do feel free to
pass along information useful to anyone who wants it. If they
use it to break the law, they pay not me.

>Well, at 39 I hope to be around for quite some time. And I am
>only bitter at folks who have no respect for the law. There's
>enough lawlessness out on the streets; we don't need it on the
>ham bands.

That's why I have a concealed weapon permit, and carry a gun.
Takes care of the lawless ones who attempt to invade my space.

>Putz? Total looser? I'll send you a copy of my curriculum vitae
>and a copy of my current mathematics research paper I am
>authoring in Analytic Function Theory.

Your talking to someone who may decide to finish up my doctorate in
nuclear physics one day. Hell, I might even take the redial english
course I've wanted to take for years (improve my spelling).
I've worked on some of the best nuclear reasearch projects this
country had to offer. Not bad for age 32. I work in the
electronics/computer science field not because I had to, it's
because I want to. I learned the old fashioned way: I did it.

>
>Jeff NH6IL (back in the days when we had the greatest respect
>for the law: WA6QIJ)

I respect the law, and work to change law that unrespectable....
Mike

My opinions are my own, I know cause I bought them for \$20 from a store.

Shoupe@order.dt.navy.mil
-----BEGIN PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----
Version: 2.3a

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=g6ca
-----END PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----

Date: Thu, 16 Dec 1993 15:31:19 GMT
From: brunix!doorknob!sds@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Robert
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Dec15.181846.14286@newsgate.sps.mot.com> Rick Aldom
<ayka60@email.sps.mot.com> writes:
Come on back Robert it has become quite slow without you!!

What are you saying?! We can make an alt.radio.amateur.robert for
you, if you *really* want it, but personally I like rrap without the
mindless style and no-code flames.

Scott

End of Ham-Policy Digest V93 #530

